

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas J. Bachinski et al.
Application No. : 09/406,575 Confirmation No. : 1763
Filed : September 24, 1999
For : MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND FASTENERS
Group Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Paul B. Prebilic

New York, New York
August 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION

This is responsive to the Office communication from the Examiner mailed August 13, 2003. Pursuant to a telephone conference with Examiner Prebilic on August 22, 2003, the following documents, which were timely filed on May 30, 2003 in the above-identified application, are transmitted herewith:

- (1) copy of Express Mail Mailing Label
No. EV 242439345 US;
- (2) copies of two (2) checks in the amounts of
 - (i) \$110.00 for a one-month extension of time, and
 - (ii) \$750.00 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE);
- (3) copy of Express Mail Certification dated
May 30, 2003 ;
- (4) copy of Request for Continued Examination
(in duplicate);
- (5) copy of Reply to Final Office Action (with
appendices A and B) dated May 30, 2003, which includes a

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petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a one-month extension of time;

(6) copy of Fifth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement dated May 30, 2003;

(7) copy of Form PTO-1449 (in duplicate);

(8) copies of Fifty Seven (57) cited references; and

(9) copy of stamped and returned postcard dated May 30, 2003.

The postcard (item 9) was stamped by the Patent Office on May 30, 2003. Furthermore, the Express Mail Certification, the Request for Continued Examination, the Reply to Final Office Action, the Fifth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, the Form PTO-1449, and the postcard all bear evidence on their faces of being sent under Express Mail Mailing Label No. EV 242439345 US.

Accordingly, applicants have filed a fully responsive and timely response to the February 6, 2003 Office action. The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this Communication is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Stuart W. Yothers
Reg. No. 53,816
Agent for Applicants
FISH & NEAVE
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1104
Tel.: (212) 596-9000

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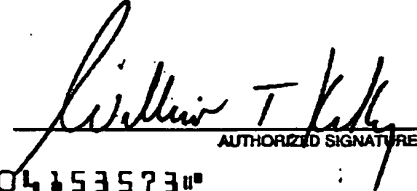
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Confirmation No. 1763

New York, New York 10020
May 30, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
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EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION

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I hereby certify that this certification and the
following papers and fees:

1. Request for Continued Examination (2 pp. - in duplicate);
2. Reply to Final Office Action (161 pp.);
3. Fifth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (4 pp.);
4. Form PTO-1449 (3 pp., in duplicate);
5. Copies of Fifty-seven (57) Cited References;
6. Checks in the amount of \$750.00 and \$110.00;
and
7. Return postcard.

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C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to
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Name: _____


Claire J. Saint-Jean Goodman

DOCKET NO.

CONFIRMATION NO.

1763

APPLICANT Thomas J. Bachinski et al.

APPLICATION NO. 09/406,575

FILED

September 24, 1999

RECEIPT IS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGED OF THE

Request for Continued Examination (2pp. - in duplicate); Reply to Final Office Action (161pp.); Fifth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (4 pp.); Form PTO-1449 (3 pp. - in duplicate); Copies of Fifty Seven (57) Cited References; and checks in the amount of \$750.00 and \$110.00.

DATED

May 30, 2003

EV 242439345 US

FILED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE CASE.

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00293.008 SWY:mjc